

Torch Bearers (Std 5 and 6)

Lesson 9

Speak The Truth

OBJECTIVE:

The students should understand the significance of the eighth Commandment by guiding them towards a deeper understanding of speaking truth and helping them to stay away or reject the sins against truth.

INTRODUCTION:

The teacher can give different situations to the students on the importance of speaking truth and ask them for their views on the same.

Example: Teena is the class monitor. One day teacher caught her friend Diya copying during the class test. However Diya refused to accept her mistake. Being the class monitor, the teacher asked Teena if she had seen Diya copying. Teena had seen her friend copying, but she did not speak the truth for fear of losing her friendship. Did Teena do the right thing?

After hearing the students' views, the teacher can relate them with the eighth commandment " You shall not bear false witness"

PRESENTATION OF THE TOPIC:

Relevance of Truth: It dwells on the importance of speaking truth. Explain how each of us are obliged to be truthful in our thoughts, words and deeds. Emphasize on the words spoken by Jesus in (Jn.14:6) and help them understand that we are bound to be honest in our lives, if we receive Jesus and live in Jesus.

Bear witness to truth: To better explain this aspect, ask the students to raise their hands, if they are proud to be called Christians. Explain that if we are Christians then it is our duty to bear witness to truth as others have the right to know the truth. Follow it up with examples in real life context to help the students understand the seriousness of telling lies and bearing false witness, as it is a mortal sin.

Sins Against truth: Explain the sins against truth. Explain how denigration, calumny, lie, revealing secrets, defaming persons, copying in the examination and flattery leads to sin against truth. Encourage the students to give an example after explaining each topic in detail.

HABIT FORMATION:

- Avoid telling lies: We should always speak the truth no matter what the consequence will be. It is better to face the consequences boldly rather than violating the commandments.
- No copying in the examination: Copying is sin against truth. Honest students neither copy in exams nor help others to copy.
- Go for confession: Confess your sins regularly and promise God not to sin again.
- Avoid spreading lies about others or defaming others: Each one of us are God's children. We do not have any right to defame others by speaking ill of / lies about them.
- Regular Prayers: Ask God to give us the grace to be honest and obedient to God.
- Being respectful: We should be respectful to others and avoid being jealous. Think before you act.

ACTIVITY:

- Role Playing: Make groups and assign each group a specific scenario(copying during exam or stealing or defaming others or any other) to show how to avoid the sins against truth.
- Group Discussion: Discuss how you can make your friend who has the habit of telling lies, aware of it?

BIBE VERSE:

Read and Learn 1 Pet 2:1

CONCLUSION:

Conclude the topic by helping the students understand that we are violating one's right to know the truth, when we tell lies or bear false witness. Highlight the importance of having good social behavior by being responsible and respectful to others.